Operation Iraqi Freedom II

"Telling the First Team's Story"

Nov. 16, 2004



Gen. Richard Myers, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, shares breakfast with Spc. Kevin Shaffer (center), a combat engineer with the 458th Engineer Battalion of 1st Cavalry Division, and Spc. Maria Kahookele, 110th Military Intelligence Battalion of the 10th Mountain Division at the Tiger Brigade dining facility on Camp Al Tahreer (Liberty) Nov. Myers was also scheduled to meet with leadership from the

## **Tiger Brigade Uncases** Their Colors in Baghdad

By Spc. Erin Robicheaux 256th BCT Public Affairs

TIGERLAND, Baghdad -- The Soldiers of the 256th Tiger Brigade uncased their colors in a ceremony facilitated by Brig. Gen. John Basilica, Jr. and Command Sgt. Maj. James Mays, of the Enhanced Separate Brigade.

The ceremony highlighted historical conflicts of the 256th including the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the Battle of New Orleans, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, WWI, WWII, and Operation Desert Storm. Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli, 1st Cavalry Division commander spoke at the ceremony.

"This is the right brigade at the right time for the right mission," he said. "The 256th represents the nation in our ongoing war on global terrorism.'

Staff Sgt. Heath Comeaux car-

ried the Brigade Colors during the ceremony and said that carrying the historical flag was one of the greatest honors of his life.

"Being from Louisiana we hold our lineage very dear to us and the heritage of the brigade is just as much a part of the Army as it is of Louisiana," Comeaux said.

All battalions of the 256th represented the Tiger Brigade: 156th, 2-156th, 3-156th and 1-69th Infantry Battalions, 199th Support Battalion, and 1088th Engineer Battalion.

Basilica concluded the ceremony by expressing that his Soldiers recognize the service of those who have gone before them and vowed that they would honor those sacrifices and the sacrifices of the fallen Soldiers' families by helping to finish the job that they started.

"You have worked hard to ready yourselves and I am extremely proud of you," Basilica said.



By Sgt. Thomas Benoit, 256th BCT Public Affairs Brig. Gen. John Basilica, Jr. (left) and Command Sgt. Maj. James Mays of the 256th Tiger Brigade uncase their colors at Camp Al Tahreer (Liberty) in Baghdad.

## Seven Suspects Snagged in Sunrise Search

By Cpl. Bill Putnam 122nd MPAD

AL RASHID DISTRICT, Baghdad -- Troopers netted seven suspected terrorists in an early morning raid on Nov. 7.

Cavalry Troopers from 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, detained seven men suspected of ties to insurgency and terror cells.

One of the men has alleged ties to the Aug. 30 attack on a sewage

pumping station. The attack, by multiple vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices, killed over 40 locals, 35 of whom were children, and wounded over 100 others.

The target for 1-7 Cavalry's Comanche Troop was a man suspected of firing rocket-propelled grenades at U.S. and Iraqi National Guard units.

The joint search team of Trooper and ING soldiers entered the house covered by several M-3 Cavalry

Fighting Vehicles parked at nearby locations.

As the search team went in the home they pulled the men out while keeping the women inside. An AK-47 assault rifle with one magazine was found, and the click-clack of its bolt could be heard as a Soldier cleared it.

Several unusual items were also pulled out of the house. Several bags of powdered graphite were found in a back storage room.

"The graphite can used as a lubricant for things," said Command Sgt. Maj. Ray Chandler, 1-7 Cavalry sergeant major, "though, I'm not sure why he'd have it."

The search also yielded something familiar for at least one trooper: orange paint.

To Sgt. 1st Class Mike Mollina, a cavalry section leader in Comanche Troop, the paint looked very familiar. About two weeks before this raid, his Bradley fighting vehicle was hit by an IED. When the 120-millimeter mortar lying on the roadside blew up under his track it sprayed a bright orange paint all over the road and vehicle's side.

"It looks like the stuff bank tellers put in the money bags when they're being robbed," he said. The paint the unit found in the raid was the same color and texture of that in the IED.

The troopers lined the detained men up against a wall, and Capt. Scott Schuster, the squadron's intelligence officer, questioned them.

Eventually, the Soldiers tested the men for exposure to explosives. Two came up positive, but all were detained.



By Cpl. Bill Putnam, 122nd MPAD

Soldiers from Comanche Troop, 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, prepare to enter an Al Rashid home during a raid. Seven suspected insurgents were detained during the operation.

#### Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

There must be some mistake. laysa AHndee sikkeen.







Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

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#### **News Notes**

## WW II Veteran Killed in Parade

BOSTON (Reuters) -William Hammond survived
one of the bloodiest battles of
World War II but died at a
parade honoring him and others after a van at a Veteran's
Day parade ran over him.
Hammond, of Abington,
Mass., was accidentally run
over during a parade Thursday
in Whitman, Mass. by a van
owned by the local Veterans
of Foreign Wars chapter and
driven by a close friend of his.

#### 'Cart-Wheel Cops' Bust 11-Year-Old

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) --Cartwheels and handstands have gotten an 11-year-old girl temporarily bounced out of her Los Angeles-area school. Deirdre Faegre was suspended for a week after repeatedly disobeying school officials who told her not to perform gymnastic stunts during lunchtime. "Our first concern is the safety of all children," the principal of the school said. She also said Deirdre could accidentally strike another student, or injure herself, and other children could get hurt trying to imitate Deirdre, who has been doing gymnastics for five years.Deirdre's father, Leland Faegre, said it was absurd to suspend his daughter for doing gymnastics when students were allowed to play basketball and other sports. "Contact sports, apparently, are fine. But this one is so dangerous it requires the cartwheel cops," Faegre said.

## Smithsonian Opens U.S. Military Exhibit

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) -- Veterans and high-ranking government officials were present at the Museum of American History in Washington for the launch of a new permanent exhibit titled "The Price of Freedom, Americans at War."

The 18,200 square-foot exhibit - the most comprehensive display of American military history in the country features more than 850 artifacts and pays tribute to the men and women who have served in uniform from the Revolutionary War to the Global War on Terror.

Highlights of the exhibition include one of the few uniforms from the American Revolution, the jacket and ribbons worn by Audie Murphy, a Huey 091 flown in Vietnam, and the uniform worn by Gen. Colin Powell in the Gulf War.

Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge and Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi all spoke at the open-



By Tech. Sgt. Sean Houlihan

Joint Chiefs Chairman Air Force Gen. Richard Myers speaks at the "Price of Freedom, Americans at War" exhibit opening at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History Nov. 10.

ing ceremony about the value of the exhibit and the importance of remembering the sacrifices of men and women in uniform.

"This exhibit is sure to inspire and renew the devotion to freedom," said Myers. "It is truly a treasure for America."

While the display is filled with artifacts such as rifles and

uniforms and recruitment posters, it is important to look at the photos of the men and women from our past who have served in uniform, Ridge said.

"Look in those faces," Ridge said of the photos of veterans on display. "It is in there you will find the true story of America."

#### A&M Bonfire Memorial to be Dedicated

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) --Richard Frampton knows he will never get over the death of his son Jeremy, one of 12 students killed five years ago in Texas A&M University's deadly bonfire collapse.

But Frampton is hopeful his campus visit this week to the bronze and granite memorial built on the grassy field where his son died on Nov. 18, 1999, can be another step in the healing process.

\Thursday, Texas A&M is set to dedicate a memorial built to honor the 12 victims and 27 others who were injured when the 59-foot-high, wedding cake-like stack of more than 5,000 logs collapsed on them as they were building it.

The \$5 million memorial's centerpiece is a circle of 12 rectangular arches, one for each of the victims, that are connected by 27 large stones, symbolic of those who were injured. Nearly 200 entries were submitted for the memorial's design.

The winning concept, by the San Antoniobased architectural firm Overland Partners, Inc., took 14 months to build and has three parts: tradition plaza, the history walk and the spirit ring.

In the middle of a grassy field inside the circle sits a round piece of black granite inscribed



Austin American-Statesman

A student pauses in front of the granite portal honoring Christopher Lee Heard at the Bonfire Memorial on the Texas A&M campus. The memorial, which will be dedicated Thursday, honors those killed and injured in the 1999 Bonfire collapse.

with the day and time of the collapse. The stone is located on the exact spot of the bonfire structure's center pole.

The circle, 170 feet in diameter, is made up of arches 16 feet tall and positioned so that each faces the hometown of each victim.

# Sports/Leisure

## Manning Tramples Houston 'D'

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) -- Peyton Manning is making the touchdowns look easy. When he gets a little help, he's almost unbeatable.

Manning shredded sloppy Houston for 320 yards and five touchdowns. The Colts scored twice on defense to rout the Texans 49-14 Sunday.

"For us, just the total points is what I'm happy about," Manning said. "It's not something we're being conscious of as far as throwing touchdowns.

It was another efficient performance for the league's defending co-MVP.

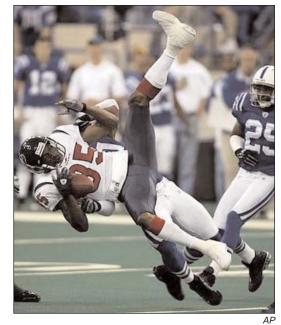
Manning was 18-of-27 and threw five TDs for the third time this year to tie an NFL record. He now has 31 TD passes, two more than he had all last year, and remains on pace to shatter Dan Marino's record of 48 set in 1984.

He led Indianapolis (6-3) to its second straight victory and kept it tied with Jacksonville atop the AFC South.

If Sunday's game demonstrated anything, it was how much separates the Texans' thirdyear franchise from last year's AFC runners-

Houston couldn't block, run, tackle, cover or even down a punt in an embarrassing performance. Manning, meanwhile, took advantage of virtually every chance he had.

The only player in NFL history to throw five TDs four times in a 12-month span, he engineered three touchdown drives that used a total of 2:06. After three quarters, Manning had just one more incompletion (six) than he did



Houston Texans receiver Corey Bradford, front, is upended by Indianapolis Colts defensive back Bob Sanders, hidden, as Nick Harper of the Colts looks on in the first quarter in Indianapolis Sunday. touchdown passes.

"We're the kind of offense that's score, score, score; attack, attack, attack," Manning said. "We're hitting on all cylinders."

### Race Tightens After Johnson Win at Darlington

DARLINGTON, (AP) -- Jeff Gordon was disgusted and Dale Earnhardt Jr. was disappointed.

Emotions were running high after the Southern 500 on Sunday, with both Gordon and Earnhardt losing ground in the Nextel Cup championship.

They were a long way off from Jimmie Johnson, who used a season sweep at Darlington Raceway to pull within striking distance of his first title. Then there was Kurt Busch, who once again overcame every obstacle to retain his lead in the standings.

The result is the closest points race in NASCAR history heading into the season finale next weekend at Homestead-Miami Speedway. Just 82 points separate Busch the leader, from fifth-place Mark

The title is up for grabs



Nascar Nextel Cup cars race under the lights during the final running of the Mountain Dew Southern 500 Sunday in Darlington Raceway in Darlington, S.C.

among drivers so skilled that it's not a question of who will win it, rather who will lose it.

Gordon was the most dominant driver at Darlington, leading three times for a race-high 155 laps. But a mistake in the pits cost him the victory. His

car came down on an air hose, causing a delay that cost them the lead as they pulled it out from under a tire and continued on with the pit stop.

Gordon wound up third, and is third in the standings, 21 points behind Busch.

#### Usher Claims 3 Awards at AMAs

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) -R&B singer Usher won three



midway mark at the American Music Awards Sunday, on his way to a

clean sweep of all four categories in which he was nominated. Usher (last name: Raymond) grabbed the prizes for favorite male artist in the soul/R&B category, and favorite album in both the pop/rock and soul/R&B categories. Usher, whose "Confessions" album has been the biggest seller this year with U.S. sales of 6.6 million copies, leads the contenders with nods in four categories.

#### 'Incredibles' Tops 'Polar Express'

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) -- In the battle of computeranimated cartoons, "The Incredibles" held onto the top slot at the weekend box office, while the costly Tom Hanks holiday movie "The Polar Express" pulled in at a distant No. 2. "The Incredibles" sold about \$51 million worth of tickets in the three days beginning Friday. Its 10-day total soared to \$144.1 million, which is how much Pixar's previous effort, "Finding Nemo," made at the same time in its release cycle last summer. That film ended up with \$340 million. "The Polar Express" opened with a modest \$23.5 million for the weekend. Since its release, it has earned \$30.8 million.